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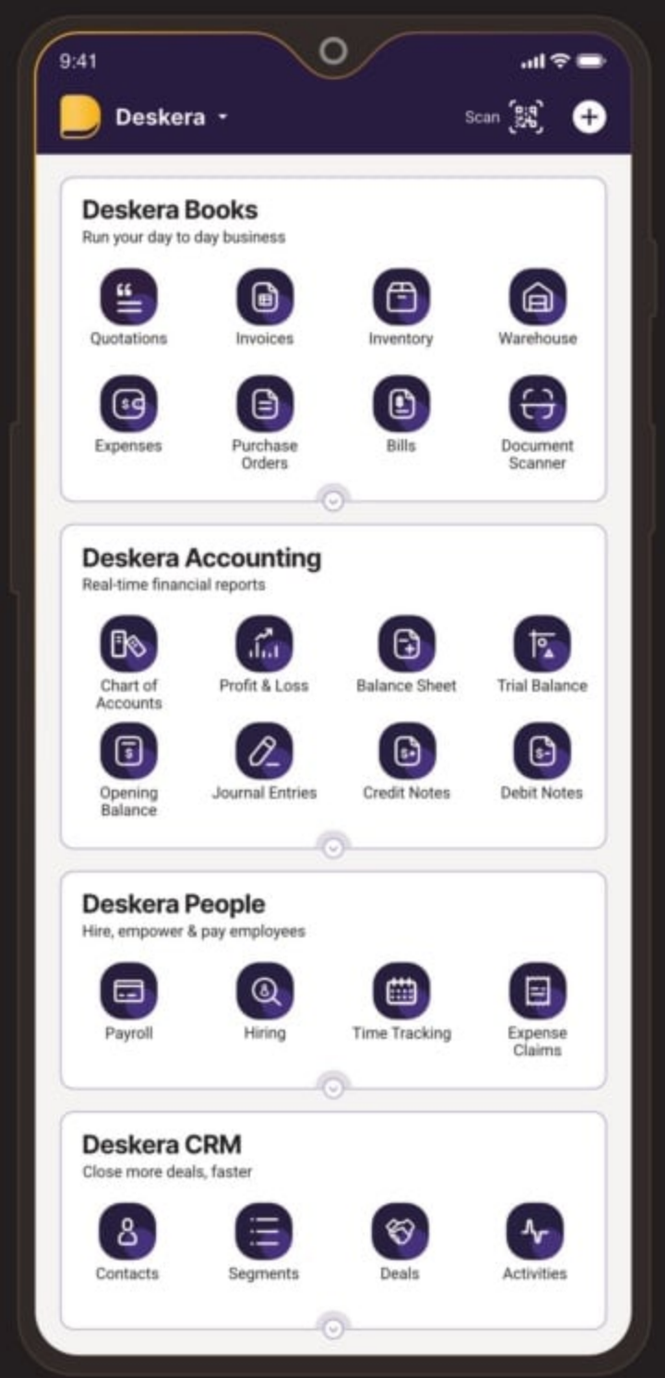

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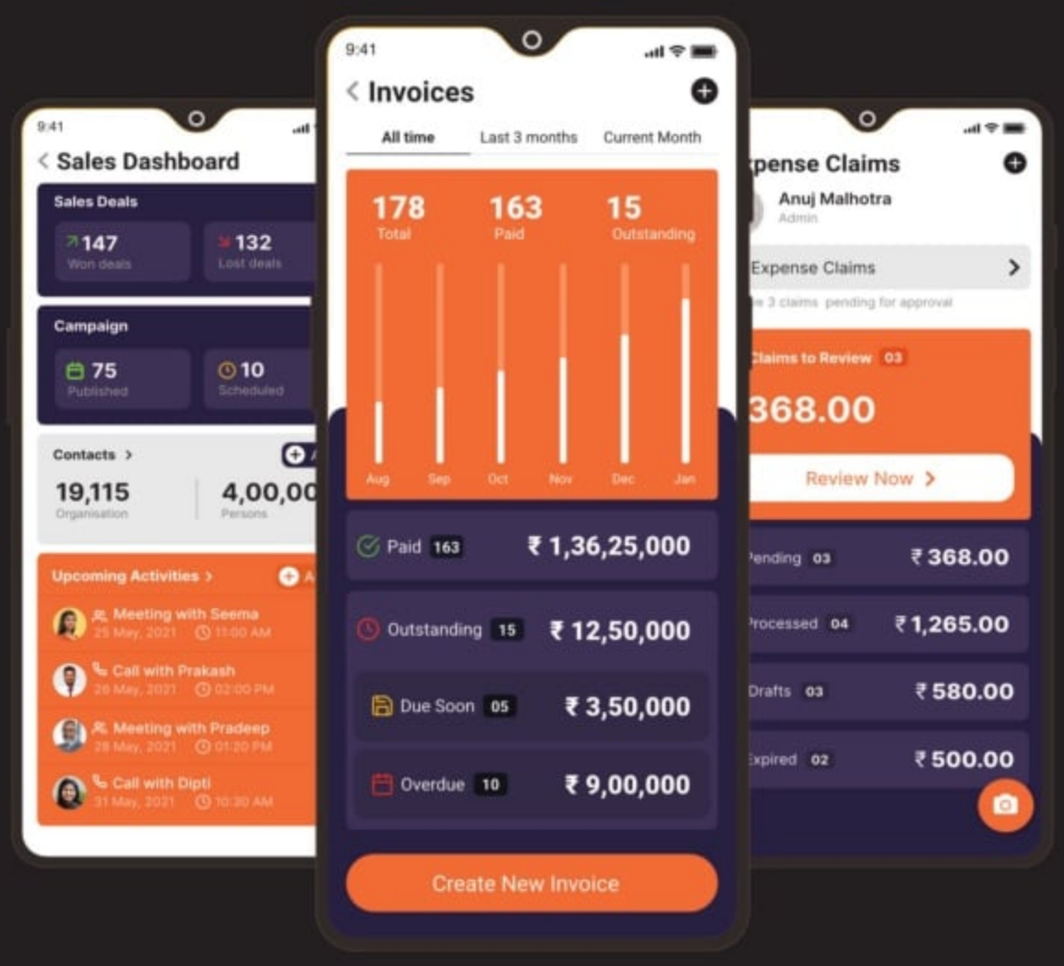

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With waste-to-energy plants scrapped, plan afoot to make natural gas from organic solid waste in BBMP limits

ALL THAT GAS

MoU to be signed with firm for two 500-tonne capacity plants

| Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has a brand new scheme in the works to make use of organic municipal solid waste.

The Palike is all set to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with an Indore-based company to set up BioCNG plants in the city under a public-private partnership.

With a capacity of 500 tonne per day, two plants will be set up in Chikkanagamangala and Karnataka Compost Development Corporation premises in Bommanahalli in collaboration with EverEnviro Resource Management Private Ltd. The facilities will function based on the biomethanation model.

"EverEnviro will set up two plants of 500-tonne capacity each in BBMP limits. While we are waiting for the government's approval, the plants are being set up to reduce fossil fuel consumption and promote CNG-based vehicles to reduce air pollution in the city. Needless to mention, it will also manage the city's organic waste," said BBMP special commissioner for solid waste management Dr Harish Kumar.

The plants are expected to begin operations in 18 months. The MoU will be signed soon; the BBMP has requested the company to expedite the process and start functioning within one year.

"This will reduce fossil fuel consumption and promote CNG-based vehicles to reduce air pollution. It will also manage Bengaluru's organic waste

— Dr Harish Kumar, special commissioner, SWM, BBMP

With this, Palike has now decided to do away with its proposed waste-to-energy plants that were at various stages of development across the city.

In its bid to solve the city's garbage menace, the BBMP, had announced the establishment of six waste-to-energy units in and around the city in 2020.

While a 14.5 MW plant in Kannahalli was expected to process 1,000 MT of mixed waste

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Layout lament

Allottees of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout seek relief from BDA penalisation in absence of basic infra

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A lack of basic amenities at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout has put thousands of people who invested hard-earned money to buy sites at the layout in a quandary. The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) developed the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout and allotted 5,000 sites in two phases to the allottees in 2016 and 2018.

As per the sale deed between the BDA and allottees, the latter have to construct houses within five years of allotment. The BDA can impose a penalty on those who fail to construct houses within five years of site allotment. As per the agreement, around 5,000 allottees have to pay the penalty for keeping the sites vacant for more than five years.

On August 28, 2020, the BDA decided to penalise the allottees in question for failing to construct houses within five years. The civic body decided to implement the decision with effect from October 6, 2020. The penalty on vacant sites varies based on the size of the site. The fines are: Rs 5,000 for a 20x30 sq ft site, Rs 15,000 for a 30x40 sq ft site, Rs 60,000 for a site measuring more than 1,200 sq ft and Rs 1,20,000 for a site measuring more than 2,400 sq ft.

Though the BDA is yet to collect

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Artsy affair

Call out to all art lovers. Medley 2 is an art exhibition featuring the works of three artists – Atoshi Shyam, KT Arun, and Deepak Joshi. The exhibition hopes to be a marriage between different themes, colours, emotions, and styles.
Where: Chitrakala Parishath
When: Till July 14 (11 am-7 pm); Tickets: Free

02 Shopper's paradise

If you're interested in stepping into the world of supermodels while shopping, then don't miss this event. '360 0 Showstopper' is a unique event to give the shoppers a true runaway feel.
Where: Nexus Mall, Koramangala
When: Till July 17; Tickets: Free

03 Quiz time!

Get ready to refresh your general knowledge as IWTK in association with Harper Collins is hosting a quiz for all quiz lovers. The quiz is on Indians who help shape India
Where: Online; When: July 17; Tickets: insider.in

Eid al-Adha celebrations in the city

People gather to offer prayers on the joyous occasion of Bakrid in Eidgah Maidan, Chamarajpet

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Planning a Diwali trip? Get ready to pay more

Reduced number of flights and high demand among reasons for price hike

Shreyashi Mukherjee
c-shreyashi.m
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Even when the prices are double, the travel enthusiasts are willing to pay more and travel. They are just trying to book the cheapest flight possible

For travel enthusiasts, travelling during the Diwali holidays is going to be a costly affair as the price of international flight tickets has increased significantly. Despite early bookings, the travellers are spending more money than usual.

The travel agents in the city say that, compared to last year, there has been a significant increase in the price of flight tickets. Several countries have lifted the covid restrictions which is the reason why many people are planning international trips during Diwali.

Anitha Krishnan, the owner of Xplore Worldwide Pvt Ltd, said, "the flight prices during the period of the Diwali holidays are very high. In the last two years Europe was not open and now that all the countries are open and commercial flights have started, the flight ticket prices have increased almost by 30 per cent compared to pre-pandemic times."

She added that there are more bookings for UK flights, "When it comes to Europe, more people are booking UK flights, followed by France, Italy, Netherlands, and Spain. During the pandemic, the flight prices for these places would be between Rs 50,000 to Rs 60,000. However, now the price range has increased from that to Rs 90,000 to Rs 1 lakh," she added.

She informed that despite the high prices, people are not backing down. They have been in their houses for a very long time, and they want to travel. They are just going for the cheapest flights.

Shamanth Krishnamurthy, owner of Sanman travels said that there is a 50-75 per cent rise in the price of tickets. "Earlier, for a place like Singapore, the ticket for a round trip would cost around Rs 18,000 to Rs 20,000. But now the same tickets we book for Rs 36,000 to Rs 37,000.

The bookings are more for countries like Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia and even Dubai. However, for Thailand and Malaysia, the price has not increased by much but for Dubai, rates have increased a lot. Earlier it was around Rs 22,000 to Rs 24,000 but now it is approximately Rs 36,000 to Rs 40,000 that too for the low-cost airlines."

> **"Earlier for a place like Singapore, the ticket for a round trip would be Rs 18,000 but now the same is for Rs 36,000**
> – Shamanth Krishamurthy, travel agent

He added that one of the reasons behind the increase in the price of flight tickets is the reduced number of flights. "Before covid, almost 10 flights would go to Dubai. But now only four to five flights are going there hence that has increased the price," said Shamanth.

He also said that increase in fuel prices has also led to an increase in the price of flight tickets. Radhika S, a resident, said, "I have been planning for an international holiday for a long time with my family but because of covid we could not go. The Diwali holidays seemed like a perfect time.

So, we booked a trip to London, but we were shocked to see the prices. Just last year the price was close to Rs 30,000, however now we had to pay Rs 62,000."

Technology to replace cops at 50 junctions

From body cameras to automatic number plate recognition, cops want more technology

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The City police are planning to man 50 busy traffic junctions without the intervention of traffic police. In other words, the cops want to manage these junctions with the help of technology.

According to Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) BR Ravikanthe Gowda, the 50 junctions included in this experiment have been identified, and the process will begin soon.

"There will be no human intervention at these junctions. We will have cameras for law enforcement. If anyone has been found to violate the traffic rules, the cameras will detect the number plates and upload the details to the server. Based on this, traffic violation challans will be served to the concerned violator," Gowda said.

Gowda also said that 214 traffic signals will be synchronised. Many motorists get stuck at the subsequent traffic signals due to improper synchronisation.

"If you are travelling on the JC road from Minerva circle to Corporation, there are multiple signals on this one-way. There is hardly any synchronisation and motorists are forced to wait at every signal. We always wonder why the police can't synchronise the signals on these roads so that we can save precious time as well as fuel," said Shiva Kumar, a trader from JC road.

Gowda said, "Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has directed us to carry out this experiment. In fact, he had suggested the same when he was the Home Minister in BS Yediyurappa's Cabinet. The process is now underway."

The public continues to complain that despite the order of not stopping vehicles for document checking, a few of the cops continue to do so.

"We have a high-tech system in place where many of the junctions are fitted with Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras. Hence, the cops on the ground have been told not to stop vehicles if there is no violation visible.

However, if there is any evidence gathered from these ANPR cameras, the police can stop the vehicles during non-peak hours. There is also provision for stopping theft or vehicles which have pending traffic fines," Gowda explained.

However, if the cops have to stop such vehicles, they need to have evidence, he said, adding that they had been receiving complaints off late about traffic police stopping vehicles at Ulsoor.

"We sent a team to verify this and found that the cops were using ANPR cameras. Now, we have also distributed body cameras to the cops. This has drastically reduced allegations against them. These cameras have to be worn by cops during eight hours of their duty and the live recording mode is always on. Even the traffic cops need to download the footage once their duty is over. If the entire footage is not downloaded, then we can take action against such cops," he said, claiming that body-worn cameras facilitated total transparency, being one of the people-friendly measures taken up by police so far.

However, Gowda said that there were no plans as of now by Bengaluru City police to take up the Mumbai model of cracking down against needless honking.

Crackdowns on under-age driving at PU colleges

Gowda also said that police will be visiting PU colleges to crack down on under-age driving.

He said that a driver's license was not issued to anyone below the age of 18. However, many PU students under the legal age were found driving and bringing bikes to colleges. Hence, police will be visiting colleges to create awareness on the issue.

Cameras will be enforcing the law instead of traffic police personnel at the 50 junctions chosen for the experiment

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Broken, encroached, trashed, uncared for, dangerous. Wonder if officials have ever stepped out of their vehicles to walk down the footpaths and experience the ordeals of a pedestrian in the city

Going by foot? Hop, skip & jump

Shreyashi Mukherjee
c-shreyashi.m
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

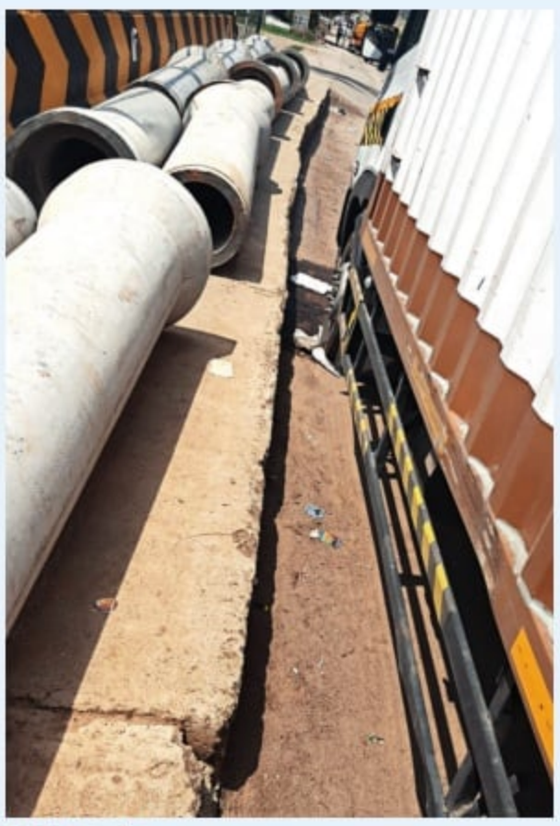
In Bengaluru, the problems of footpaths have been an age-old issue.Pedestrians often complain that they are not walker, senior citizen, and disability friendly.

Ashok K, a pedestrian, said, "The footpaths near my house in Dasarahalli are almost non-existent. They are broken, posing a serious threat to walkers. I see footpaths in other places being ill-maintained as well. They are either encroached upon by vendors or have something that blocks the space. Some of the footpaths are also very high, which makes it difficult for senior citizens to use."

Sapna Karim, Head of Civic Participation at the NGO Janaagraha, said, "They should have a systematic approach to implementing footpaths. Problems faced by people with disabilities and senior citizens have to be taken into consideration. Quick implementation can, in a few years, cover about 14,000 km, by assessing the priority areas. Unless you drive the implementation through data and actual ground realities, it will always be a very ad hoc approach."

Rajarshi Das, an architect working in Bengaluru, said, "Footpaths are basic amenities that every citizen would expect. They should not be encroached upon by other people or used to dump waste. City planning should itself integrate footpaths. Various places in Bengaluru do not have adequately wide roads. Sometimes, the people in the neighbourhood also occupy footpaths to sell their things, which makes it narrower. Additionally, to clean drains or other public spaces, footpaths are dug up and not fixed. There should be better coordination among the departments of the government."

BM readers shared pictures of footpaths across the city, and they all painted the same picture of their shoddy maintenance



Yelahanka
Residents of Yelahanka are upset because the space on the footpath has been taken by contractors and other builders, leaving no space for walking.

Chikkabettahalli
Residents say that parts of the footpath are completely broken near Adithya Nagar 1st Stage, Chikkabettahalli.

JP Nagar
A resident complained that the footpath near Indian Bank in JP Nagar, 7th Phase lacks a system for the proper flow of rainwater during monsoons.

Baiyappanahalli
Pedestrians say huge vehicles like SUVs are parked at the entrance of Baiyappanahalli Metro Station, making it difficult for them to walk.

Nagarbhavi
The gas station gates are blocking the footpath opposite Deepa Complex, Nagarbhavi, Kengeri Main Road.

HAL 2nd Stage
At HAL 2nd Stage, 1st cross, behind New Horizon School, huge stone slabs are obstructing pedestrians, especially school going children.

AECS Layout
Pedestrians are annoyed because garbage has not been collected from the footpaths for months. Accumulated garbage takes up all the space at Sanjay Nagar, AECS Layout.

Maruti Sevanagar Road
Pedestrians are irked because the undulated slabs on the footpath make it very difficult for senior citizens as well as disabled people near Jai Bharat Nagar Bus Stop opposite Orion mall, Maruti Sevanagar Road.

80 Feet Road
Many pedestrians have injured themselves because of hanging wires on the footpath close to MS Ramaiah Hospital towards 80 Feet Road.

Ejipura
Commuters complain that the footpath is almost non-existent with broken slabs and uncovered drains in Ejipura, 20th cross road, Ardha Layout.

OMBR Layout residents yearn for fully asphalted road

Only patches of the OMBR Layout road have been worked upon by BBMP officials

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After struggling with bad roads for 3-4 years, residents of OMBR Layout near 6th Cross received only patchwork restoration by the BBMP despite countless complaints.

BBMP officials claim to have completed the road work, but the road was reportedly only restored in areas dug up by the BWSSB.

Patches of the road have been restored while residents wait for a fully asphalted road.

A resident of the area, Arun Balan, said, "We have been struggling with dust flying off the road that makes small kids sick."

Another resident, Carolyn Dsouza, said, "I have been cleaning cement and dust from the balcony thrice daily. We aren't able to leave doors open. Restoration was taken up during rains and led to shoddy work. In addition to the patchwork, they have also added speed breakers that are causing accidents. Two accidents took place the day they were installed. They come out of nowhere and are not visible at night."

Residents note that there is no indication of the BBMP completing work.

"The road has been partially tarred and the entire stretch has not been covered. Only 1/4th of the road has been completed, and that is patchwork. Just 50 metres ahead of the same road are massive potholes. With the area being unmotorable, people are also engaging in haphazard parking, adding to congestion," said Abhilash, another resident.

Upendra, also a resident, said, "6th Cross and 5th Main have become a nightmare. It's out of the question for residents to travel using a two-wheeler. We are ashamed to bring relatives to our homes. We are paying higher taxes than most areas but have worse infrastructure than small towns".

BBMP official maintained that road work was completed two days ago after BWSSB deposited "Rs 21 lakh for restoration work alone".

Still not working; thanks for all the Sahaaya

Shreyashi Mukherjee
c-shreyashi.m
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

We've said this before and we are having to say it again -- Sahaaya 2.0 app developed by BBMP is not fulfilling the purpose it was created for.

Citizens say the app is also not allowing them to escalate their complaints.

The app was developed by the BBMP for citizens to register their grievances against departments like BESCOM, BWSSB, BMTC, BMRCL, BMRDA, and BDA through photos, videos, and other methods, but the people who have tried to use it say that it does not work properly.

Status of footpath at Devanga Sangha Hostel Road

Raghavendra B Pacchapur, working with the NGO ActionAid India, said footpaths in Kalinga Rao Road and Devanga Sangha Hostel Road that are right behind the BBMP office are poorly maintained.

He said the road sees a lot of footfall because there is a cancer hospital there and even though the footpath here is unusable, people cannot complain as it is extremely difficult to do so using the Sahaaya app.

"Some of the roads fall under major roads and no ward official takes responsibility for it. Moreover, there is a lot of confusion about which road is under which ward. Till a certain point, a road belongs under one ward and after that it belongs to another. It is very difficult for us to know which ward maintains which road," he added.

He also said that if the ward number is not mentioned the app says that the complaint is 'non-relevant' and closes the case. There is no mechanism to take the case to the authority responsible.

BangaloreMirror
Sahaaya 2.0 scores a big 0
There's a sense of deja vu. The renewed app is crazy be as bad as the previous one. Some complaints are rejected; some closed without being addressed

Other citizens say that in the earlier version of the app they had the option of escalating an issue. The complaint would be taken to the authority responsible. But, in the current version, there is no such option.

Amith K, a citizen, said, "I should be able to complain about the footpaths or roads when they are not in proper condition. It is their job to figure out the department responsible for it and take the issue to them and then get them to do something about it. This app is completely one-sided. People can just complain about it and after a few days the complaint gets closed on its own." A BBMP official said, "The app has a few glitches, but it will have more updates soon. We will try to make it easier for people."

Taxing times for influencers

Social media content creators in city react to govt plan to impose TDS on freebies

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Social media influencers will now have to pay a 10 per cent tax at source (TDS) on freebies worth more than Rs 20,000, according to the latest Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) guidelines.

Many influencers are upset over the revised guidelines and believe that companies and brands now exploit them.

Muskan Ghuman, an Instagram influencer and digital creator said, "There is not enough clarity about the guidelines yet and I feel this might harm influencers. For example, if we are receiving a free package, we will have to pay a certain amount as TDS even when we received no payment. This might affect smaller creators who mainly get their payment in terms of freebies. Many brands deduct TDS on payments lower than Rs 20,000 too. If the deal is for Rs 15,000 to promote one product, then the company will hardly pay Rs. 12,000 saying that it is because of the tax."

The new guidelines came into effect on July 1 as per Section 194R, a recent addition to the Income-tax Act.

Smaller businesses usually depend on a barter system of sorts for promotion where they send freebies to creators in exchange for content. The creators create videos and promotional posts or put stories on Instagram and other social media platforms. The 'influencer career' has gained much popularity over the past few months as many brands have started to rely on social media influencers for promotions and advertisements.

"We do not have a proper salary. In some months, we get many promotional deals from various brands and gaming companies when we do not even have time to create content for everyone. In other months, we do not get anything. It is not like an actual job with a fixed salary," Ghuman added.

Many creators and other people also believe that taxation on influencers is a change for the better.

"I think it will actually help get better recognition for our career as there is still a lot of confusion about what we do. It is a relatively new field and isn't considered a career but tax means that the government is also recognising us. However, it might harm some creators as now brands will also become more selective about choosing their partners. It will also make it harder to start in the field with less followers as it takes time to gain a good audience on social media. There are so many creators already, why would someone invest in a small creator with fewer followers who are just starting out?" said another content creator.

> **"If we are receiving a free package, we will have to pay a certain amount as TDS even when we received no payment. This might affect smaller creators**

Taxable freebies include free hotel stays, sponsored travel, product samples, gadgets, and meals over Rs. 20,000, as well as cash.

Vinaya K, a quality control specialist in a media company, said, "I was shocked to know that they did not pay any tax until now. I see these paid promotions and some of them get paid a lot for the same, but they did not have to pay tax. I think it is a good decision from the government's side."

As per the guidelines, if the influencer returns the free product to the company, there will not be any tax deducted as the provision of section 194R will not apply.

Murmu meets Gowda to seek JD(S) support

The BJP-led National Democratic Alliance's presidential candidate Draupadi Murmu on Sunday met former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda and sought the JD(S) support for the presidential election on July 18.

She was accompanied by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Union Minister for Coal and Mines Pralhad Joshi, and BJP national general secretary CT Ravi during the meeting with Gowda. His sons HD Kumaraswamy, a former chief minister, and HD Revanna, a former minister, were also present. Earlier, Bommai and BJP State president Nalin Kumar Kateel and other functionaries of the party received Murmu on her arrival here by a private jet by garlanding her and honouring her with a shawl and Mysuru 'peta' (turban). Later, Murmu went to a hotel where she addressed the BJP legislators and MPs, seeking their support in the election. **PTI**

Of 942 new covid cases in K'taka, 831 in Bengaluru

Karnataka on Sunday reported 942 fresh covid-19 cases, taking the total infections to 39,79,021, the State Health Department said.

The department in its daily covid-19 bulletin said 737 people were discharged, taking the total number of recoveries to 39,32,000 till date. Active cases stood at 6,898.

Of the total infections, Bengaluru urban district contributed 831 while there were 30 cases in Mysuru, 13 in Dakshina Kannada, 11 each in Belagavi and Kolar and 10 in Udupi.

There were zero infections and fatalities in 11 districts of the State. The positivity rate for the day was 4.20 per cent, the department said.

As many as 22,403 tests were conducted, those included 17,210 RT-PCR tests. There were 3,329 people who were inoculated, taking the total vaccinated to 11.27 crore so far, the department said. **PTI**

Natural gas from Bengaluru's garbage

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

per day, a 2 MW unit in Doddabidarakallu was scheduled to convert 100 MT of mixed waste into energy every day.

BBMP had also proposed to partner with Firmgreen Enterprises and NEG to establish two different plants at Mavallipura to process 1,600 MT of mixed waste. While the former was expected to process 1,000 MT alone to produce compressed natural gas (CNG), the other 9 MW plant was proposed to convert 600 MT of waste to energy. Two more waste-to-energy units were expected to come up in Seegehalli and Lingenahalli.

According to officials, the concept of generating energy from waste using conventional technology is an idea difficult to sell. While most of the companies that agreed to set up these plants do not have investors, these units are also facing stiff resistance from civil society members and activists working in the space of solid waste management.

"We have been working at waste-to-energy plants for the last eight years; however, none of the plants could start functioning. Even after getting investors, many contractors sold the plants to other investors and moved out of the contract. Moreover, waste-to-energy plants also faced resistance from activists. We also looked at waste-to-manure through bio-mechanisation, but even this is hitting a roadblock due to the foul smell these plants generate, causing inconveniences to those living in the vicinity," said a BBMP official.

Officials said there were logistical hurdles in establishing BioCNG plants in the city. However, with gas pipelines being laid across Bengaluru by Gail Gas Limited, the dream of affordable CNG-operated vehicles can be realised.

"In the absence of pipelines, it was cumbersome to generate CNG and transport it to gas stations. While the storage of methane can also be dangerous, the model being implemented by EverEnviro has been recognised by 72 Asian and African countries across the globe. The company has established a BioCNG plant on the same model in Indore," informed Kumar.

The decision to set up the plants has been taken with the proposal to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and get more CNG vehicles on road.

"Although electric vehicles are the other way out of polluting fuels such as diesel and petrol, the EV industry is far from being stabilised and sustainable. However, with CNG, all we need is fuel stations and transportation pipelines. It will reduce fuel consumption as well as pollution if we can shift mass transportation vehicles onto CNG," said Dr Kumar.

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Layout allottees in dilemma

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

penalties, thousands of allottees are worried. They want the BDA either to extend the deadline of five years or ensure basic infrastructure such as water, electricity, underground drainage and roads in place at the layout.

"I purchased the site for Rs 56 lakh at a public auction in March 2022. Though I have more than four years to construct a house, I want the BDA to provide basic infrastructure without further delay," said Satish.

Dr Sheela said that she too purchased a site at a public auction but got disappointed after visiting the layout. "There are no basic amenities. I want the BDA to provide basic infrastructure," the doctor said.

Meanwhile, Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum gave a representation to the BDA seeking the extension of the five-year deadline for constructing buildings. "We demanded the BDA to fix the five-year deadline from the date of placing the entire infrastructure in place at the layout. There are no proper roads to transport construction materials to the construction sites. It is quite disappointing to see BDA engineers not expediting the developmental works at the layout," said Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum secretary M Ashok.

Surya Kiran, spokesperson of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum, said the BDA missed two deadlines of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA); Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai gave written reply in the Assembly stating that the major arterial road and layout infrastructure work would be completed by December 2022 to the query raised by MLA Suresh Kumar.

"The State Legislature Committee on Petitions, based on our complaint, visited the layout. BDA authorities assured the committee to clear the approvals for pending works but the work did not resume in full swing due to the delay in clearing pending bills to the contractors. As per the Chief Minister's assurance, only five months are left to complete infrastructure work but unfortunately the BDA, which works under the Chief Minister, is not doing anything to complete the pending works," said Kiran.

However, BDA commissioner Rajesh Gowda MB said efforts were being made to complete the pending works. "We have received a representation from the site allottees seeking an extension to the deadline for constructing buildings at the layout. We will consider it," the commissioner said.

KRS at full tank, B'luru's water needs look sorted

Copious rainfall ensures KRS reservoir is filled up for third year in a row

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

It looks like there won't be any water crisis for Bengaluru this year as the reservoirs in the Cauvery catchment areas are now reaching the brim level. For the third year in a row, the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) reservoir in Mandya district has almost reached the brim level.

On Sunday afternoon, the reservoir level stood at 123 feet against the full reservoir level of 124.8 feet. With inflows increasing to 35,335 cusecs, 27,672 cusecs are being let out to the river as a precautionary measure.

Bengaluru is heavily dependent on Cauvery water for its daily requirement. Around 1,450 MLD of water is pumped from TK reservoir (near Kanakapura) on a daily basis.

Comfort level is in sight

A BWSSB official said, "We are now comfortably placed as far as water storage is concerned. Around 70% of Bengaluru's water requirements are met from KRS storage and 30% from Kabini. This year, Kabini is also reaching the brim level as on Sunday was 2,282.12 feet (FRL-2,284 feet) with 18,803 cusecs of inflow."

This is in stark contrast with the situation in the previous years. According to the official, there was a water crisis in 2003, when the water level in KRS had depleted to 64.67 feet in May and the inflow had dropped to just 17 cusecs.

"Since last October, the KRS has had water levels above 100 feet. There was a water crisis in 2016 and 2017 also. The water crisis has inter-state ramifications as there have been tussles with the neighbouring Tamil Nadu over water sharing."

Compared to last year, the KRS has filled up faster this year.

During this time (July 10, 2021), the water level was 88.76 feet. The water level had not crossed 105 feet till the first week of August there by raising concern over water shortage. However, the heavy rainfall in the last phase of monsoon helped the reservoir fill up (October 27, 2021). In 2020, the FRL was reached on August 16, 2020.

KRS reservoir in Mandya district has reached brim level and excess water is let out to the river Cauvery

Tourists restricted

The Chikkamagaluru district administration imposed fresh restrictions for tourists on Sunday. According to an official order issued by the Deputy Commissioner KN Ramesh, entry has been barred for heavy vehicles (weighing 1,200 kg) in Chandra Drona hill ranges like Mullayyanagiri and Bababundagiri and other places. Vehicles will be allowed only between 6-9 am and 2-4 pm and only 300 vehicles will be allowed. Only those who have booked in homestays and resorts will be allowed.

Fresh tremors in Kodagu, geologists say nothing to worry

The fresh tremors in Kodagu district on Sunday is causing unease among people about the situation. However, experts say that there is no need to worry because the Deccan Plateau is a safe zone.
The tremors in Kodagu district and adjoining districts of Hassan, Shivamogga, Chikkamagaluru and Dakshina Kannada besides Vijayapura and neighbouring regions in north Karnataka have been felt since June 26. On Saturday, the quake measured 4.4 on the Richter scale in Vijayapura bordering Maharashtra, and there was another tremor of 1.8 this morning in south Karnataka. But, geologists in Karnataka were unanimous in saying there was no need to panic as the Deccan Plateau is a safe zone seismically. They were also of the opinion that these tremors were essential as the pressure caused by the disturbance is coming out in the form of mild tremor. Earthquakes are not a regional phenomenon. The Indian subcontinent is always moving. Each year, the subcontinent is moving 0.5 centimetre. So, there would always be some internal disturbance, Dr Lakshmamma, Joint Director in the Department of Mines and Geology said. According to her, the river valleys themselves are the fault zones. The valley region of major rivers is the lineaments, which are fault zones where weak areas and fissures are formed in hard rock terrain, Lakshmamma said. – PTI

For the love of dog, please pick up after them

Volunteers of the dog park at Cubbon Park are carrying out awareness drives

With the fear of a blanket dog ban hanging over ardent dog-lovers in Cubbon Park, volunteers in-charge of the dog park inside the park conducted an awareness drive among dog owners beseeching them to be more responsible.

The volunteers gathered pet parents and educated them about the various guidelines issued by the horticulture department regarding walking the dogs in Cubbon Park.

"We have been creating awareness for many years now but we have increased our awareness drives. The number of volunteers has increased and different sessions are being conducted to create awareness about the subject. While inside the dog park, they can roam free. We are trying to create more awareness about leashing dogs outside these premises and picking up the dog poop," said Shruti Bopaiah, a member of Cubbon Park Canine.

Apart from the awareness drives, volunteers also held up placards and were encouraged to take pictures to post on social media handles to amplify the drive.

While the horticulture department recently demanded that dog walkers need to carry the required gear, volunteers are not very keen on the gear requirement. "We are not focusing on how the poop is picked up. Pet parents should be free to use whatever medium they feel comfortable with, but our focus will be on pet parents not leaving the mess behind. While we want pet parents to follow the park guidelines, we don't want to encourage single-use plastic usage," added Bopaiah.

The team is also running a shame campaign involving taking pictures of irresponsible dog owners. "We have been also asking the horticulture department to enforce fines and put a process in place," added Bopaiah.

– Melvin Mathew

Pankaj, Chitra for World Games

The city's cue sports world champions Pankaj Advani and Chitra Magimairaj are part of the Indian contingent to participate in The World Games 2022' in Birmingham, Alabama (USA) which got off to a start on July 7 and which will conclude on July 17, 2022.

The World Games is an event in which competitions are held in sports disciplines which are not part of the Summer Olympic Games. The event is organised one year after the Olympic Games. It was first held in 1981 and India has been participating since then.

India has bagged four medals, one gold, one silver and two bronze medals. Badminton legend Prakash Padukone won a bronze in the first edition in 1981. Sumita Laha and Rekha Mal bagged a silver and a bronze respectively in Women's Powerlifting. Snooker champion Aditya Mehta clinched the first gold for India in 2013 when he won the men's snooker event.

Pankaj

India's first gold at the games came due to Aditya Mehta's efforts in Men's snooker back in 2013.

Chitra

India has sent entries in seven disciplines for the 11th edition of the event.

While Pankaj will figure in the billiards event, Chitra will be in action in the 9-ball women's snooker event. In the Compound Men's team in archery, Aman Saini and Abhishek Verma will vie for the top spots while Avneet Kaur and Musan Kirar will do so in the Women's Compound event.

Three athletes, Aarathy Kasturiraj, Dhanush Babu, and Varsha Sriramakrishna Puranik will represent India in roller skating events.

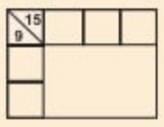
A couple's team from India take part in the newly introduced Dance event which will be in the Rock 'n' Roll category. Powerlifting solo athlete Sahil Mahesh Utekar will represent the country in the Men's Lightweight category while Sumo Wrestler Samruddhi Bhosale has qualified for the Women's Lightweight sumo wrestling event. In Wushu, the martial art sport, India's Sanma Brahma will take part in the Taijiquan, Tajijian All-round Men's event.

It is a good opportunity for Pankaj and Chitra as cue sports is not part of any multi-discipline events like the Asian Games, Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games etc. though they have their own individual championships. Another sport which could well have been included is Tenpin Bowling which also suffers like cue sports.

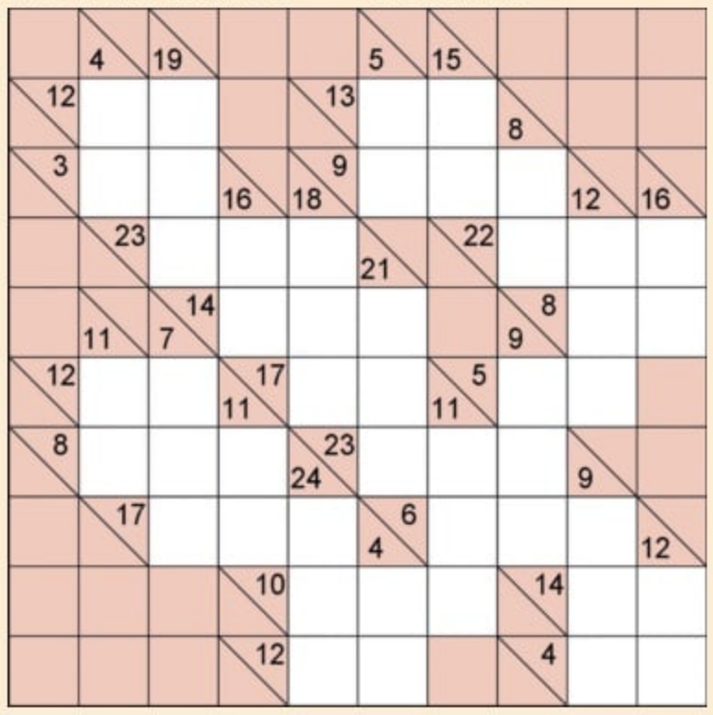
– SS Shreekumar

Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Linemaro

Let me know when I can stop pretending that I am not gawking at you

Mindchow

Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished

Joke of the day

Every time I think about exercise, I lie down till the thought goes away

Loop

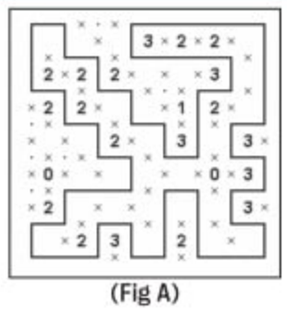
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

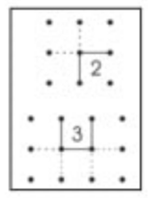
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

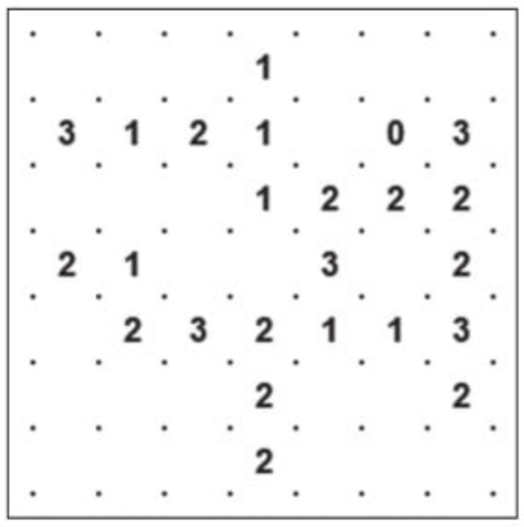
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



SudokuChallenge

8				2				6
	9						8	
		7	3		5	2		
	1	6	2		4	9	7	
	7	4	8		6	3	1	
		2	4		8	6		
	4						2	
6				9				5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6

3 6 6 9

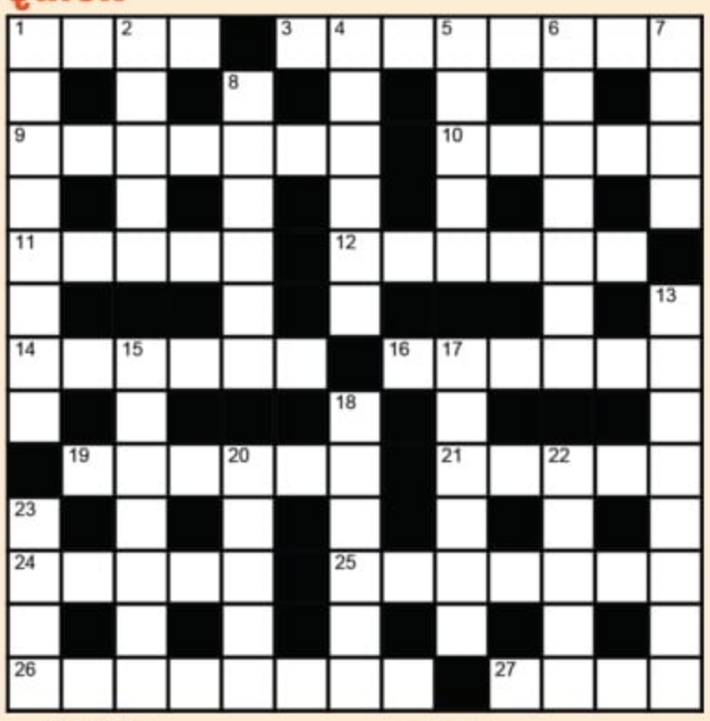
Medium = 4

2 6 6 6

Hard = 40

7 8 9 7

Quick



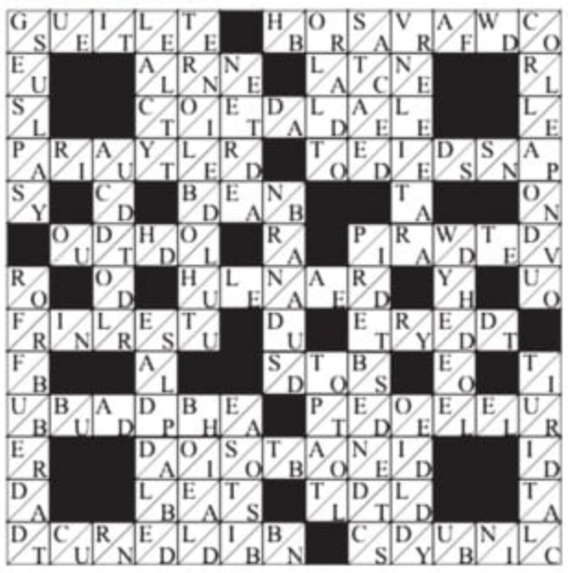
ACROSS

1 Ridicule (4)
3 Gagged or muffled (8)
9 Fruit grove (7)
10 Unit of weight (5)
11 Perfect (5)
12 Complied (6)
14 Attic (6)
16 Healthier (6)
19 Chest of drawers (6)
21 Chinese corner on Cunningham Road (5)
24 Serious play (5)
25 Find or discover by chance? (3,4)
26 Prepare an army for war (8)
27 By mouth (4)

DOWN

1 Places where boats and ships are attached to stop them from drifting (8)
2 Recurrent period (5)
4 Under cover (6)
5 Summon up (5)
6 Join together (7)
7 Colouring agents (4)
8 A Scottish magistrate (6)
13 Master copy (8)
15 An edible red stalk (7)
17 Spur to action (6)
18 Shoves or thrusts (6)
20 Electronic message (5)
22 Situated above (5)
23 The first man (4)

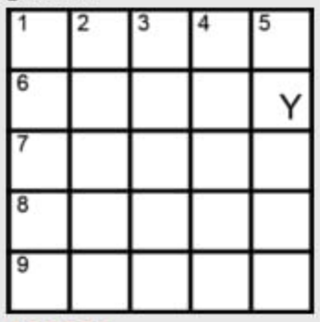
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Daded; 6 Rev NY; 7 Organ; 8 Do ere; 9 Slope

DOWN

1 Glean; 2 Order; 3 Do Pro; 4 Ed Eva; 5 Snyde

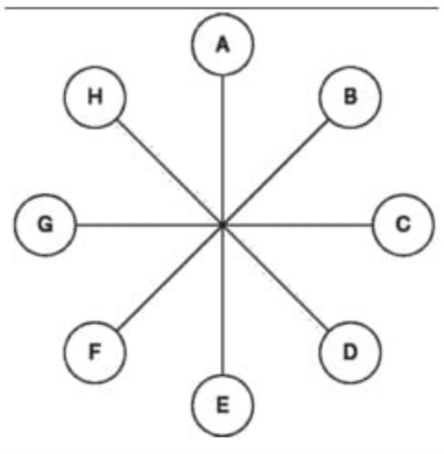
Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Sleeve is longer. 2. Window in door is lower. 3. Bush is larger. 4. Zipper pull is added. 5. Roof is smaller. 6. Hat is reversed.

Mensapuzzle

What letter is directly opposite the letter that is two letters away clockwise from the letter that is directly opposite the letter E?

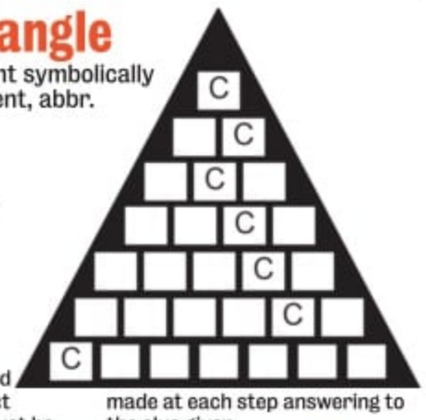


Riddler

A different fruit (a total of twelve) is buried in every one of the following lines. Ah! If I get my good ship home I'll find a tempting spot, Where mayhap pleasant flowers will bloom, And there I'll shape a charming cot. Where bees sip nectar in each flower, And Philomel on hawthorn rests, I'll shape a rustic, sun-kissed bower–A bower meet for angel guests. Then she who lives and loves with me, Sing our days of calm repose, Sole monarch of the flowers will be–For Myra is indeed a rose.

Alpha triangle

1 Diamond's element symbolically
2 Alternating current, abbr.
3 Expert
4 Every
5 Instruct
6 Move away from
7 Bilked



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

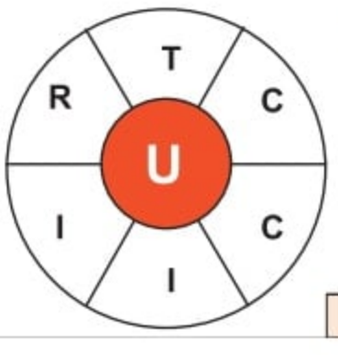
Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: I EQUALS P

NT NR MHAHY'R TXA VJ QOMJHA, N'W CRNQQ UH NY IANCXY. NR MHYR O QXR TOCRHA MNRD RMX IHXIQH WNLLNYL

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; **02** Good; **03** Outstanding

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

I invented something that might work as a modification to this "barrow" of yours.
Wayno & Piraro 5-7-22
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Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

HM...
SLURP!!
I GUESS MY COMICS AREN'T GOING TO DRAW THEMSELVES TODAY, EITHER.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2022 ANGIE HART
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

IN FURTHER NEWS ABOUT THE SPACE OBJECT PASSING NEAR THE EARTH...
WE CAN NOW CONFIRM THAT IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE A NATURALLY OCCURRING PIECE OF SPACE DEBRIS.
5-4
'IN FACT, THE OBJECT VERY MUCH RESEMBLES AN ORDINARY BACKYARD GRILL!'
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Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

You will have mental peace today. You are likely to be busy with friends and family. You may enjoy your domestic life, and that can improve understanding with your spouse. There could be a new partnership in business. Innovations can help your business to grow. Disputes in partnerships should be resolved now.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Your good health will also leave you feeling happy today. Health-related issues will now be resolved. You should control your expenditure on unnecessary items. New sources of income are likely to be opened, which may boost financial health. Singles may find their soulmate.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Today your moon is positive. With boosted energy, you will be able to perform efficiently at work. You can also help needy people. You may spend your time trying to study or engaging in intellectual activities. You may also plan for higher studies to groom your career.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Today, until evening, you may be impatient and low on confidence, which may reflect in your way of working. Your parent's health might make you upset. Your children's behaviour could also upset you. You should try and focus on yourself to avoid scattering your energy in many places. Investments in risky assets should be avoided.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Today you are likely to be happy. You can plan an overseas work trip to grow your business in the near future. Spending money on luxury items may improve in your lifestyle, but you are advised not to drive yourself towards glamour or addictions. It may affect your financial health.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

You are advised to control your way of speaking. Harsh tones can affect family harmony. You may spend your hard-earned money on some worthless items to maintain your social status. Remember it Is not important to do so.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Your children's career or other activities might occupy your time. You can take advice from someone to choose career options. You could meet consultants or a specialist. You may also hear good news regarding your children's results. You can invest some capital in your family business.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Today you must control your way of speaking. Be careful of hidden enemies and opponents, you may be a victim of conspiracy. It is advised to not make investments in risky assets. You must avoid lending money to anyone as it may not be recoverable easily. Meditation and yoga can help. Lovebirds should stay away from controversies. Students are advised to work hard.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Today is a day of success in terms of work. Your plans will now yield positive results, bringing profits. There may be good news related to past investments. Your creativity could help you improve your professional skills. Job seekers are likely to get a suitable job. Students may have good focus after self-analysis. You may be able to understand your spouse better.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Today jobseekers may find work. There are chances of promotions for those engaged in a profession. In business, you may get new clients, which will be helpful for growth. Singles are likely to find a good match. In domestic life, you must avoid hiding anything from your spouse, or it will create distance in your relationship.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Today, until afternoon, you may be upset. However, your elder's blessings may protect you from a messy situation soon after. Your willpower may help you complete your delayed projects. It is advised to avoid arguments in domestic life. By evening, you may hear of gains from past investments.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Today your moon is not positive. There are chances that you may not feel well. You are advised not to make investments in new business projects, otherwise you may face losses. Students are advised to avoid fantasy and should work hard in their studies. You should also avoid rash driving.

KIDZONE

Manasi M 8 Years, Clarence High School

Hrishika SM, 9 Years, Kamala Central School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

(16)*(16)*(1/16)= 16

BULL'S EYE

CIRCUIT, curt, urlc

QUOTE UNCODE

If it weren't for my lawyer, I'd still be in prison. It went a lot faster with two people digging

RIDDLER

Fig, date, apple, peach, nectarine, pear, orange, olive, gourd, lemon, raisin

FAST FIVE

A	D	D	E	D
N	E	R	V	Y
G	R	O	A	N
E	R	O	D	E
L	O	P	E	S

STRIKE OUT

G	U	I	L	T	■	B	R	A	V	A	D	O	■	■
U	■	A	R	E	■	A	C	E	■	■	■	R	■	■
L	■	C	I	T	A	D	E	L	■	■	■	L	■	■
P	R	A	Y	E	R	■	O	D	E	S	S	A	■	■
S	■	C	■	D	E	B	■	T	■	■	■	N	■	■
O	■	O	■	U	L	N	A	R	■	H	■	O	■	■
F	I	R	S	T	■	D	■	E	Y	E	D	■	■	■
F	■	A	■	S	O	S	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■
B	U	D	D	H	A	■	P	E	E	L	E	R	■	■
E	■	D	I	S	B	A	N	D	■	■	■	I	■	■
A	■	L	E	T	■	L	T	D	■	■	■	A	■	■
T	U	N	E	D	I	N	■	S	Y	B	I	L	■	■

QUICK

M	O	B	I	L	I	S	■	E	O	R	A	L	■	■
A	■	R	■	I	■	E	■	■	E	E	■	A	■	■
D	R	A	M	A	■	H	I	T	U	P	O	N	■	■
A	■	B	■	M	■	S	■	I	■	P	■	I	■	■
■	B	U	R	E	A	U	■	C	H	U	N	G	■	■
S	■	H	■	■	■	P	■	N	■	■	■	I	■	■
G	A	R	R	E	T	■	F	I	L	T	T	E	R	■
N	■	■	■	I	■	R	■	■	■	C	■	O	■	■
I	D	E	A	L	■	O	B	E	Y	E	D	■	■	■
R	■	L	■	I	■	O	■	K	■	N	■	S	■	■
O	R	C	H	A	R	D	■	O	U	N	C	E	■	■
O	■	Y	■	B	■	N	■	V	■	O	■	Y	■	■
M	O	C	K	■	S	I	L	E	N	C	E	D	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE

G

SUDOKU

8	3	1	9	2	7	4	5	6
2	9	5	6	4	1	7	8	3
4	6	7	3	8	5	2	9	1
5	1	6	2	3	4	9	7	8
3	2	8	1	7	9	5	6	4
9	7	4	8	5	6	3	1	2
7	5	2	4	1	8	6	3	9
1	4	9	5	6	3	8	2	7
6	8	3	7	9	2	1	4	5

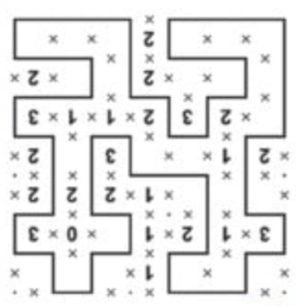
ALPHA TRIANGLE

C, AC, Ace, Each, Teach, Detach, Cheated.

GO FIGURE

Easy
6 - 9 + 6 + 3 = 6
Medium
6 + 6 - 2 - 6 = 4
Hard
7 - 9 + 7 × 8 = 40

LOOP



KAKURO

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 # Iranian filmmaker arrested
Golden Bear-winning Iranian filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof arrested for 'inciting unrest'

Who had faith in DP when no one else did?

... Her 'ma' Farah Khan! And the actor is forever grateful

Actress Deepika Padukone who made her big Bollywood debut with Farah Khan's 'Om Shanti Om', has penned a sweet note of appreciation reacting to the filmmaker's post about Deepika's advertisement for an international luxury brand.

Farah, who is on a Thailand holiday with her family, spotted Deepika on a hoarding at a mall in Bangkok. Sharing a picture of it on Instagram Stories, Farah wrote, 'Looking good baby.'

Reacting to it, Deepika thanked Farah for sharing the post, Deepika reshared the post on her Instagram stories and wrote, "Thank you Ma, YOU had a faith in me when no one else did..."

In response to Deepika's post, Farah wrote, 'You were a star even then...so proud,' followed by a red heart emoticon.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Deepika will be next seen in 'Pathaan' with Shah Rukh Khan and John Abraham. Apart from this, she also has a 'Fighter' with Hrithik Roshan.

-ETimes

'Parents don't talk about marriage as much as media'

Sonakshi Sinha and her rumoured beau Zaheer Iqbal's marriage reports have been rocking the headlines. There were constant murmurs and rumours about her marriage.

Revealing about the same, Sonakshi Sinha told a news portal that her parents are not so curious about her plans of getting married. The actress added that wants the focus to be on her work over her personal life. The actress went on to say that people want to know what's going on in her life and they can speculate all they want.

Elaborating further, the actress added that until she is not ready to share her life with the world, she won't do it. She also added that even her parents don't ask her so much about her marriage as the media and the public.

Meanwhile, on the work front, the duo will next feature in the film titled 'Double XL'. Helmed by Satram Ramani, the movie also features Huma Qureshi.

-ETimes

A salute to cops

BThyagaraj, a physically-challenged B.Com graduate, is brimming with confidence ahead of the release of his latest short movie – Salute. Thyagaraj, who quit a job at an MNC to pursue painting and directing, has already proved his mettle as a director with his earlier short movies – Sorry and Shrestaru. Thyagaraj's latest 27-minute feature film Salute is about the hardships and sacrifices of the Bengaluru police during the pandemic. "I completed its shooting in five days at Kengeri and Kanteerava Studios. Many sincere policemen suffered a lot during the pandemic. I have to thank producer Deepak Gowda for giving me the opportunity to direct this movie," said Thyagaraj.

Retired Assistant Commissioner of Police Umesh, who was chief guest at the screening of the film at Chamundeshwari Studios, said he was aware of the problems the police faced. Deepak Gowda said he is dedicating Salute to his father who worked as a Deputy Superintendent of Police.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Back to work after a quick break

Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani returned to Mumbai last week after a quick secret getaway. The couple was spotted at the airport, confirming their outing. Back in the bay, Kiara has resumed the shoot of her next film.

The actress will soon kickstart the shoot of her upcoming pan-India film. A source revealed, "Kiara Advani will begun a 15 day long schedule for S Shankar's next beginning on 14th July, continuing till the end of the month in Hyderabad.

She has earlier shot portions of the film in Hyderabad and Vizag." Kiara Advani shares the frame with Ram Charan in this yet unannounced entertainer.

-ETimes

Jameela responds to criticism of her look in 'She-Hulk'

British actress Jameela Jamil proved that she doesn't get angry when fans question her look in the upcoming Marvel series 'She-Hulk: Attorney at Law'.

According to reports, after an image of her 'She-Hulk' villain Titania was shared to social media ahead of the project's August 17 premiere, Jameela took to Twitter and responded to posts that were critical of her appearance, with some individuals voicing questions about the character's hairstyle.

On Saturday, Jameela wrote, "Omg this photo. Guys... I accept every ounce of shade here, but in defenCe of my excellent hair stylist, this is just my hair after a 14-hour stunt day in Atlanta heat. Just after being upside down. She did a *great* job on the show I promise. I love her. Boobs look ok tho?"

Among an array of other messages, she posted about the fan reaction was a tweet that read, "I dutifully accept the crowd attack." In response to a fan who was later critical of her character's costume, the actress wrote, "You'll get it when the show comes out. It fits the character."

'She-Hulk: Attorney at Law', which stars Tatiana Maslany in the title role. also stars Ginger Gonzaga, Renee Elise Goldsberry, Tim Roth, Mark Ruffalo and Benedict Wong.

The upcoming series follows Jennifer Walters as she navigates the complicated life of a single, 30-something attorney who also happens to be a green 6-foot-7-inch superpowered hulk.

As per reports, the show's first promo collected 78 million views in its first 24 hours when it launched in May, making it the second-biggest trailer debut for a Marvel Studios series.

-ANI